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Weekly Newspapers of Alabama Give Attention to Agriculture In Comments on Farm Problems

FERTILIZING FISH PONDS

The fertilizing of private fish ponds may be beneficial but we do not believe it is necessary for all years at least to fertilize the lakes and streams of this county. Ten after ton of the farmers' high grade and expensive fertilizers have been washed into the various streams and lakes and if the fertilizing of water bodies is utilized, which its sponsors claim, there should soon be some good fishing in these regions.—The Clarke County Democrat.

EXTRA BED PROGRAM

An article in the same section this week by Mr. F. C. Parker, of the Launched in Alabama." It used to be that farm homes always had an extra bed. They had to do away with them when time comes to market the cotton. —The Greenville Advocate

WINTER COVER CROPS

It looks as though Dale County farmers will be forced to double and treble their winter cover crops this year. The long, poor, dry rainfall has leached the sandy soil and much of the top of our lands has been lost. Cover crops over our farm lands this Fall and Winter, will go a long way to restoring their lost fertility.—The Southern Star

FAIR SHARE OF INCOME

Farmers of this country do not receive their share of the national income; regardless of the cause the condition is unhealthy and should be remedied.—The Chambers County News

TAKE NO HOLIDAYS

The cow, the sow and the hen work in rainy weather as well as fair weather. They take no holidays.

Farmers who raise their own vegetables, produce their milk and butter and eggs do not have to buy vitamins from a drug store.

The wealth of Blount County will be doubled when the idle land is utilized, which its sponsors claim, there should soon be some good fishing in these regions.—The Clarke County Democrat.

HE NEEDS LIVESTOCK

The farmers who put up the sign "Don't walk on the grass, my cotton is under 40" will probably be presented and paid monthly. The amount presented exceeded the amount of the monthly allotment, the money would be pro-rated. If, during any month, the bills were less than the allotment, the farmer would receive the extra funds until the end of the year. At the time, it would be used to apply on the bills that had not been settled in full.

During 1938, the first year of our organization, 307 families, with 1,650 persons were helped. The 1,650 families 918 visits were made to the homes; 1,217 visits were made to the offices of the doctors; 913 received medical care; and 73 persons received hospital treatment. During 1939, we have 370 families, with approximately 2,860 persons, and 1,217 families.

Until recently the medical profession has frowned upon contract practice, and even now many of its members are ardent in their opposition to any such plan. The members of the Coffee County Medical Society realized that this

Health Problems of 307 Coffee County FSA Families Are Taken Care of by Medical Organization

NOTE: Because of the interest and because it may point the way to better medical service for rural Alabamians, we present this article by Dr. E. L. Gibson, Enterprise, written especially for this Month in Rural Alabama.

BY E. L. GIBSON, M. D.

THE Farm Security Administration had been long organized in Coffee County before W. L. MacArthur and other authorities of the organization realized that the rehabilitation of farmers could only be fully achieved unless some means of rehabilitating them physically was provided.

The Farm Security Administration offered these people a solution to their financial and physical difficulties and at the same time offering to them a higher standard of living conditions. All of this meant much to these farmers, but this was still the problem of medical care and hospitalization. Many of these people were handicapped physically by chronic ailments and diseases, to the extent that they were unable to do their work as it should be done. Despite the fact that they were in much better condition financially than they were before the government took charge, they were not able to meet a large doctor's or hospital bill.

All their efforts to raise the standard of physical fitness of these people have been welcomed by the clients themselves. We cannot say that we have had one single person complain to us from them, but that was not expected. Some will call the doctor unnecessary and in other ways abuse the privileges of the Association; but the majority of them are appreciative of the benefits derived from the plan, and are eager to cooperate in an effort to make it successful.

Believe that this second year will prove the feasibility of continuing this Association. The exigencies of the need of some sort of plan is felt by the officials of the County Medical Society, a plan that will be of benefit to medical and hospital care would be made available for the clients of the Farm Security Administration for a nominal annual charge. The doctors of the County Medical Society agreed to this plan.

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EXTRA BED PROGRAM

An article in the farm section this week suggested the Bed Program Launched in Alabama "will not be that farm homes always had an extra bed. They had to do away with them to keep their city relatives from roosting in them all summer."—Jasper Advertiser

WINTER COVER CROPS

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Farmers who raise their own vegetables produce their milk and butter and eggs do not have to buy vitamins from a drug store.

The wealth of Blount County will be doubled when the idle land is all utilized for pasture and woodland.—Southern Democrat.

HE NEEDS LIVESTOCK

The farmer who put up the sign "I have no cattle" on the great day cotton is under 4" tall probably wishes that he had used the grass to graze stock on when time comes to market the cotton. —The Greenville Advocate

GOOD PASTURES NEEDED

Alabama with its fine grazing lands in many parts of the State and long pasture seasons possesses advantages for a cattle raising state that should be taken advantage of by our farmers. Only a few are doing so, however.

Practically all the contributions had the cattle tick as an excuse for not raising pure bred cattle, and it was a good excuse. Purebred cattle couldn't live in this tick infested region. They would die of cattle fever like poisoned rats.

What about the cattle fever ticks in Walker, and what is the excuse now?

Lack of good pastures. Walker County farmers should consult the county agent about pastures, about what to sow and how to establish a good pasture.—The Mountain Eagle

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The Farm Security Administration offered these people a solution to their financial problem, making it possible for them to obtain the necessities; and at the same time offering to them a higher standard of living conditions. All of these people were in better health than was still the problem of medical care that remained unsolved.

Many of these people were handicapped physically by chronic ailments and disease to the extent that they were unable to maintain their health as well as done.

Despite the fact that they were in a better condition financially than they were before, the government took charge, they were not able to meet a large doctor's or hospital bill.

In an effort to solve this problem a medical organization to the problem of the Farm Security Administration came down to Coffee County. After a number of conferences with the officials of the County Medical Society, a plan was devised whereby medical and hospital services could be made available for the clients of the Farm Security Administration for a nominal annual charge. The doctors of the County Medical Society agreed to do the work of a community health center.

An organization was set up, known as the County Health Association. In each farmer's budget was included a sum of from eighteen to thirty dollars, depending on the size of the family, which was put into the medical and hospital fund. It was decided that the administrative expenses of the Association should not exceed five percent of the total amount.

After deducting this, the remaining amount was then divided into two parts: two-thirds for medical care; one-third for hospital care.

The medical and the hospital funds were divided into 12 equal parts, in order that the bills might be presented to the patients in a manner that would not exceed the amount of the monthly allotment. The money would be pro-rated. If, during any month, the bills were less than the allotment, the remainder was held in the funds until the end of the year. At that time, it would be distributed among the bills that had not been settled in full.

During 1938, the first year of our organization, 307 families, with 1,630 persons, were included under this plan. 183 were included in the medical and 124 in the hospital fund.

Practically all the contributions had the cattle tick as an excuse for not raising pure bred cattle, and it was a good excuse. Purebred cattle couldn't live in this tick infested region. They would die of cattle fever like poisoned rats.

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plan was nothing more nor less than contract practice, but they considered it as an experiment. If it was successful, it would be beneficial to the farmers participating, and would be helpful to the doctors.

The problem of medical and hospital care for the low-income farmer is of vital importance to the South. In the past ten years, the economic status of the rural people has been such that only emergency sickness received the benefit of medical attention; and when such conditions arose, the doctor either had to perform his services free or was definitely underpaid or remunerated. Under these circumstances, these people were naturally below par physically, and definitely handicapped by their physical condition.

One year of this pre-payment of medical and hospital care plan has done much to improve the health of these people. Cooperative work by the county nurses has visited in the homes, instructing these people how to maintain sanitary conditions, in order that many of the dangers of disease spreading might be eliminated. Too, they are vaccinated and inoculated.

All of these efforts to raise the standard of physical fitness of these Farm Security Administration clients have been welcomed by the clients themselves. We can say that we have had one hundred percent cooperation from them, but that was not expected. Some will call the doctor unnecessarily, and in other ways abuse the privileges of the Association; but the majority of these are appreciative of the benefits derived from the plan, and are eager to cooperate in an effort to make it successful.

We believe that this second year will prove the feasibility of continuing this Association. The exigency of the need of some medical plan is felt by the officials of the Farm Security Administration and the doctors. By means of their efforts, and the full cooperation of the clients, we feel that the outlook for the success of the plan is bright.

The doctors of the County Medical Society have had a year to work on the plan, and we believe that the results will be good.

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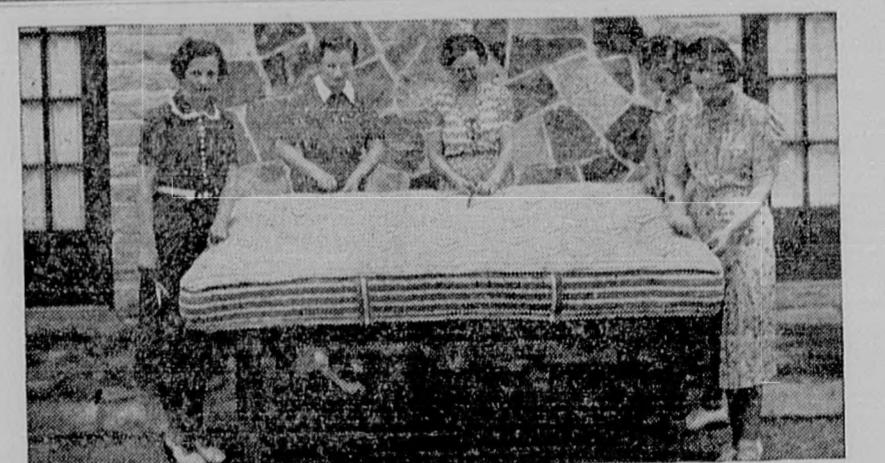
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September, 1939

THIS MONTH IN RURAL ALABAMA

Page Three

Cotton Season Provokes Interest in Bed Program



Pretty soon women in every county of Alabama will begin the second year of a mattress making campaign. Shown above is Franklin husband, home demonstration agent in Blount County, with a group of women of that county and a mattress they made during last fall's campaign. Home agents in all counties are laying plans for more and more mattresses this year with home grown cotton.

Women Help Increase Income Through Curb Market Sales Of Many Farm-Home Products

By ETNA MCGAUGHEY

State Home Demonstration Agent

EVERY day is pay day for the farm family who lives at home. Farm families in Alabama are realizing this fact and are making extra money.

According to a budget, producing ample poultry, dairy products and meat for home use is

one of the best ways to increase income.

Much of the protein of whole milk is retained in cottage cheese; thus, it is a good source of this important body-building material. The following recipes for dishes which the whole family will enjoy are suggested.

Cottage-Cheese Casserole

3/4 cup of medium white sauce

2 cups cottage cheese

3 eggs

1/2 teaspoon of salt

Add the eggs to the well-beaten cheese. Add the salt and stir in the cottage cheese. Turn the mixture into a buttered casserole placed in a pan of hot water, and bake it in a moderate oven for 45 to 60 minutes. This makes a good meal for the family.

Cottage-Cheese Soups

4 tablespoons of butter

1 tablespoon of grated onion

4 cups of milk

1 1/2 teaspoons of flour

1/2 teaspoon of salt

1/2 cup of cottage cheese

Melt the butter and cook the onion in it until the onion is transparent. Make a white sauce of the butter, flour, salt, and milk. Add the cheese to the hot sauce and stir it until well blended. Serve the soup within 15 minutes. This serves six or seven persons.

"In the Bullitt County home demonstration club we made three mattresses. These are the best mattresses that I have had in my home during the 30 years that I have been a housekeeper. It is my opinion that the best mattresses are those made by the women in the community. They are made by many different women and each bed has a different pattern. Turn the mixture into a buttered casserole placed in a pan of hot water, and bake it in a moderate oven for 45 to 60 minutes. This makes a good meal for the family.

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ADDITIONAL EXPOSURE NEEDED

Time Is Ripe for Beef Cattle Conversion Which Bids Fair to Alter South's Farm System

THIS time is ripe for the beef cattle conversion which is revolutionizing agriculture in the South. Beef cattle will not displace cotton, nor should they, but a combination of the two is bound to clear many a cloud from the Southern sky.

With this introduction, the American Hereford Journal has opened a section on Southern beef cattle, with articles by Southern livestock leaders stressing improvement in beef quality and advantages of the South for cattle.

Among advantages listed are several livestock leaders cite the availability of protein-rich cottonseed meal and cake to supplement pastures, grain and roughages. In the feed lot, cake and meal frequently is fed in excess of protein needs as a source of energy and as a substitute for grain when grain costs as much as or more than meal or cake.

Knowledge of the relative value of the successful feedlot. Good nutrition supplemented with grain and cottonseed cake or meal or cottonseed cake alone, make an economical means of maintaining or fattening cattle.

Good pastures are the foundation for leading Southern feeds is essential for their efficient and economical use, livestock leaders agree.

Wheat is comparable to corn in feed value, but must be coarsely ground or

gives best results if limited to half of the ration.

Ground grain sorghum heads and ground ear corn when ground are about equal in feeding value, but one-fifth to one-fifth more should be fed to get the grain equivalent of shelled corn or threshed grain sorghum.

Oats are ideal for breeding cattle and growing cattle, but are not a ration outstandingly satisfactory only during the first part of the feeding period.

Cane molasses often is the cheapest source of carbohydrates in the South, giving best results when used to replace not more than half of the grain.

Low-protein roughages of similar value for beef cattle are: Johnson grass hay, pasture grass, dried bulls, cane hay, sorghum fodder and grass bays. Legume hay constitutes the most commonly fed high-protein roughages.

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Cherokee Is Forging Ahead With Program

WE like to keep up with what our neighbors are doing around the corner, even over the country. But it's easier to hear stories about others in other parts of Alabama who've overcome difficulties and really seem to be making a go of their farms. And when the same story is about a whole lot of 'em, then it's about time to sit up and take notice.

That's just the kind of story we have for you today—one about a whole county. Cherokee County is forging ahead in livestock production and many other improved farm practices. This story was picked up by the fact that farmers of Cherokee County now own 222 brood mares, four jacks and one stallion. County Agent Earl Solomon says that many of those mares are being bred this year.

Already, cattle are running around the county in greater big numbers. In fact, we dropped last year and they're expecting the number to be twice as large in 1939.

Not only are the farmers entering into this and your own watershed," the slogan—hot 4-H boys are getting the idea too. Jack Livingston, a 4-H'er of Centre, bought two colts in the fall of 1938 and is growing them out and breaking them in as a club project. These two are a splendid prospect and Jack is learning a good lesson in livestock production.

Besides raising more horses and mules, Cherokee County farmers are branching out into other kinds of improved farms. Since last fall, they've established 13 purebred swine herds in the county, ranging in size from one gilt to three and four and a boar.

The increased number of farm ani-



A big boost to Alabama's Black Belt beef cattle industry came recently when more than 100 buyers and agricultural workers of other Southeastern states spent three days in making a tour of the section. Buyers were anxious to place orders

seen this clover will make seed under adverse weather conditions. E. V. Ellis, a farmer who lives near Centerville, has 50 acres on which he sows seed. Another farmer, R. P. Sned, of the Key Community, planted over 100 acres of crimson clover and sowed at least 25

acres last year with crimson clover.

Shown above at top is the group "talking business" with farmers at a barbecue and at bottom the out-of-state group is seen looking over some of the animals at the Black Belt Experiment Station at Marion Junction. K. G. Baker, superintendent of the station, is shown in the inset.

From Here And There

OVER 3,000 MEMBERS

The Tuscaloosa County Farm Bureau has a membership of 3,122, the largest county membership on record in the State. Montgomery County is second with 2,950 members, Choctaw third with 1,350 and Monroe fourth with 1,310. The state membership is 22,445.

BETTER COTTON

Alabama ranked at the bottom in 1929 with only two and one-half per cent of the cotton crop 15/16 inch and longer. In 1938, 63.6 per cent of the crop was of the better length, bringing an additional one million dollars to growers.

3. To remove wall paper—Make a solution of one tablespoon of saltwater to one gallon of water. Apply freely to the paper. This removes the adhesive and makes necessary. Keep the water hot.

4. Wall paper paste—A good wall paper paste can be made by mixing two parts of water with three parts of flour, by measure. Stir until lumps are gone and then boil for 10 minutes, stirring well. When cool, mix in two tablespoons of powdered alum for each gallon of paste.

SILK WORMS

About 5,000 mulberry seedlings and about 2,000 silk worms recently arrived at Atmore, Ala., to be used in raising silk products at the new extension farm. A total of 20,000 mulberry seedlings are to be planted on 40 acres. While the mulberry trees are getting started, the silk worms are being fed on white and black mulberry leaves borrowed in the Atmore area.

DON'T BLAME THEM

The farmers are really in bad shape to this and your own watershed," the slogan—hot 4-H boys are getting the idea too. Jack Livingston, a 4-H'er of Centre, bought two colts in the fall of 1938 and is growing them out and breaking them in as a club project. These two are a splendid prospect and Jack is learning a good lesson in livestock production.

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SIX-MAN COMMITTEE

Two new members have been added to the Alabama AAA Committee, making a six-man committee instead of five. The new members are J. M. Jones, New Market, Madison County, farmer,

and Henry J. Whittle, Jacksonville, Calhoun County, farmer. Other members of the committee are T. H. Johnson, Gadsden; L. S. Jones, Livingston; W. C. Crandall, Bandey; and P. O. Davis, director, Alabama Extension Service. The committee meets twice a month at Auburn and passes on matters appealed to it by county committees and forms the policies under which the AAA work is conducted in the State.

\$26,287,619 PAYMENTS

During the year, ending July 1, Alabama farmers were paid \$26,287,619 in conservation and adjustment payments. Of this amount \$15,596.06 were 1938 Agricultural Conservation payments and \$10,691,320.27 were adjustment payments.

FRIED CHICKEN

Fried chicken week proved popular in many Alabama communities this spring and summer. Extension agents in some areas have found chicken "because it is good, because it helps business and because it moves a surplus of chickens and helps the poultry raiser."

FARMERS' MARKETS

One of the first big steps toward setting up a farmers' market marketing system was taken when the Mobile Farmers' Market was opened the first of June this year. Immediately the volume of business forced the extension of sheds.

Seed Potato Industry Is Being Pushed in State

A LOT of money changes hands in Alabama's Irish potato industry when you consider the seed, the commercial crop and the related industries—shipping, crating, washing, etc. Baldwin, the largest potato producing county, made Alabama one of the larger early potato producing states, but during this a great deal of money is sent out of the state each year for seed.

A program has now been launched to develop this seed potato industry in south Alabama between 300 and 400 bushels of seed to be used by north Alabama farmers in the production of a fall crop. Another county is securing acreage for the same purpose.

Alabama is at present using a rather large volume of Irish potato seed in the production of the early commercial crop in some Alabama and for smaller plantings outside the state. This runs as high as one-quarter of a million dollars for Baldwin County alone. Until recently the spring planting in south Alabama has been made entirely from seed imported from states such as Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Dakotas.

Four years ago the Alabama Experiment Station started a series of experiments to determine the possible value of North Alabama grown fall potatoes and spring planting in south Alabama, and after a year's research, the results indicated that these north Alabama fall grown seed gave as good production on the average in south Alabama as seed imported from the North.

These potatoes will be grown according to the best known methods and will be dug and stored in the fall after which they will be ready for use either for planting in south Alabama or in other counties over the State for the early crop.

In addition to the large amount of seed which are imported for the early commercial crop, a rather large aggregate volume of seed is brought in from other states and used in the more northern counties. A large portion of these seed come from states where disease is extremely bad and it is hoped that these home-grown seed may replace these sources and give the farmer a great deal of money.

Too, growers who have not been careful in selecting seed for their fall crop in the North and who have not obtained certified seed, have frequently gotten very poor production. Some growers this year were observed digging as low as ten bags per acre where noncertified seed were used, while 100 bags or more were obtained from nearby fields where

seed which is much grown will keep a great deal of money in the State and will help farmers in north Alabama to materially increase their cash income by growing a good portion of seed potato which is now being brought in from other states.

"The counties in which growers will plant seed from south Alabama for the production of seed are: Limestone, Lauderdale, Cullman, Marshall, Etowah, Cherokee, and DeKalb."

In September and October, fall seed is planted early. There are some that may be planted for hogs and other livestock as well.

Oats, Drill or broadcast the rye seed at three to four bushels per acre in September and October. Begin digging when six to eight inches high. The usual grazing period is January to May.

PORKY PIG is noted for one thing. And if we want to get the workers for the packing plant we expect the hogs to eat and eat plenty. But therein lies the reason why many of us lose money in hog production—we expect to finish the hogs on feed but too often it is "pigout feed" and by the time the animal is fattened to good profit the animal is fatigued and the profit is lost.

Barley, Tennessee Winter Barley may be sown at three to four bushels per acre in September. Begin grazing when six to eight inches high.

Barley is as good condition as young cows and he wanted to breed his herd up as fast as he could. So he has practiced saving all but the poorest of his hifers and selling the male calves and the older ones each fall just before frost. As a result of this he has been able to increase his herd from 12 to 20 in a year.

Half-bred hifers, eight three-quarters, and five of his native cattle which were in the initial herd. This herd of 33 cattle, one bull, and 20 calves Mr. Moore estimates is worth \$1,500.00.

"An average cash income of \$600.00 per year has been realized from this enterprise," says Mr. Moore. The cash income has been divided equally between the tenant and the landlord. In the beginning Mr. Peck furnished the pasture and the feed, and the tenant paid the rent. Mr. Moore furnished half the animals, half the feed and all the labor.

In addition to the annual income Mr. Moore finds that he has 75 to 100 loads of good manure to apply to his land each year which was not available before the hog cattle enterprise was started.

At the present time, the yield of cotton on the farm has grown from about one-half bushel per acre ten years ago to better than a bushel per acre at the present time.



Alabama's Irish potato business is undergoing an important experimental change this year as North and South Alabama growers try to swap seed and keep money in the State. Shown above are two scenes of the potato business in Baldwin County—getting the potatoes sacked and loaded on the train that carries them to Northern markets.

Morgan County Landlord And Tenant Solve Problem of How To Divide Beef Cattle Money

Mrs. L. D. Moore, Route 3, Somerville, has an interest in E. Bassett Hartwell, seems to have finally solved about two of Morgan County's outstanding farm problems of the day with their beef cattle enterprise. They have found a way to profitably use the surplus cattle which are now being grazed on their land.

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Families Urged to Spend More Play Time Together

By NELL PICKENS
Alabama Extension Service

FARM families are giving much thought and effort to providing an adequate food supply to meet the needs of growing children. Emphasis is being placed on the proper kind of diet and on how to make it more comfortable and appetizing. But sometimes we forget that family time is built by wholesome fun and pleasure and that a family that "plays together stays together."

Most children not only delight in a home play ground but receive much emotional, physical and mental, from one.

It is perfectly possible to plan and equip a home playground that will run itself, with an occasional eye from Mother as she goes about her household duties. It can be so simple that Father can set it up in a few minutes and the children can have it up in no time.

The responsibility of providing a play ground for the children and maintaining it is a shared responsibility.

A swing is a necessity from the children's point of view. All that is necessary is a safe overhead support, two side

Pasture Work

D. F. Moore, of Franklin, Washington County, is one of the demonstration farmers who has made an outstanding success in his pasture work. Mr. Moore, in the spring of 1937, seeded eight acres with 10 pounds of lespedeza and 100 pounds of rye grass per acre and used one pound of triple superphosphate per acre. In addition each acre received a little over a ton of lime.

He pleased was Mr. Moore with the results obtained and in the spring of 1938 put in an additional 17 acres of pasture. This additional acreage was treated in exactly the same manner as the original acreage.

On a recent visit to Mr. Moore's farm, H. C. Moore, assistant county agent said the Dallas grass looks as if it were at least in its second year, and there is a perfect stand of lespedeza.

Mr. Moore says, "There have been from 15 to 20 head of cattle grazing on the entire acreage and each animal consumes from 10 to 12 pounds of pasture per day. The best I attribute the spindid results I have obtained to the phosphorus and lime used on this land. I believe that a good permanent pasture is one of the finest investments a farmer can make."

However, the greatest benefits from Mr. Moore's demonstration pasture are yet to come. The influence of this work in his community is evidenced by the increased interest of neighboring farmers in pasture work.

There're Two Bulls

There is one big difference between a good bull and a scrub. The good bull builds the herd while the scrub bull tears it down.

Mr. W. Burns, extension animal husbandman, "The descendants of a good bull soon cease to be the highest type of citizenship—Monroe Journal

"The grade bull is but little better

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